

3/28/60

ATT 2

PROGRESS NOTE FOR RESEARCH GRANT H-1891 (C5)

Dr. Caroline Bedell Thomas

The Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine

Title: Precursors of Hypertension and Coronary Disease

June 1, 1959 through April 1, 1960

A. Professional personnel:

1. Dr. Caroline Bedell Thomas, Associate Professor of Medicine - 80% of time
2. Dr. Mildred Kendrick, Assistant, Div. Chr. Dis., J.H. School of Hygiene and Public Health - 100% of time 9/1/59-5/31/60

B. Collection of basic data on Johns Hopkins medical students has continued along lines previously described. The class of 1963 registered this year, is the sixteenth consecutive class studied, bringing the number of well-studied subjects to around 1000 at the time of their graduation in 1963.

C. Follow-up studies: the classes of 1950 and 1955 have just received their ten- and five-year questionnaires. Vigorous efforts are being made to secure 100% return.

D. Special investigations:

1. Effect of Vitamin B₁₂ on cholesterol level.
2. Seasonal variations in cholesterol level.
3. Comparison of figure drawings of smokers and nonsmokers (supported in part by the Tobacco Industry Research Committee).
4. Genetic factors among healthy smokers and nonsmokers (supported as in 3).

E. Analysis of data:

1. The general design of the project, the nature of the data obtained and plans for the future, including a) statistical analysis and publication of the basic findings and b) methods of long-term follow-up, are being reviewed in a series of conferences with a group of advisors from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health: Professor Abraham M. Lilienfeld, Head of the Div. of Chr. Dis.; Dr. Raymond Seltzer, Assistant Professor in Epidemiology, and Dr. Earl L. Diamond, Assistant Professor of Public Health Administration and Assistant Professor of Biostatistics.
2. Topics thus far discussed include: a) study population, b) hypotheses of the study, c) reliability of the family history data, d) death certificates, e) follow-up information and f) construction of life tables for the parents of the medical students.

F. Other:

1. The 26 papers resulting from this study between 1948 and 1959 have been collected in a single paper-covered volume printed by the photo-offset method.
2. An anthropometric study has just been started in parallel to the present project under the direction of Dr. Carl Seltzer of Harvard sponsored by the Tobacco Industry Research Committee. Body measurements and constitutional photographs are to be obtained on 300 students in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and on as many graduates registered in our study as possible during the next year. Their data is to be turned over to us for use in the long-term study. We are to make available to them our data on smoking habits and certain other items.

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